

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 23, 2007

CONTACT: Mónica Muñoz

(619) 531-2675

ARREST IN PETTY THEFT SERIES

(San Diego) Beginning in early January of 2007, San Diego Police Department received reports of wallets and purses stolen from unoccupied classrooms at local elementary schools (and one middle school) in San Diego. The suspect took property from the wallets and purses and within hours of the theft, purchases would be made using the victim's credit cards.

Nine cases were reported between January and the second week of February. These cases occurred at Kate Sessions, Spreckels, Lindbergh Schweitzer, Bayview Terrace, La Jolla, and Mason Elementary schools. One case occurred at Mason Elementary.

The suspect was caught on camera at Kate Sessions Elementary School walking around campus trying to open classroom doors. The suspect was seen entering a classroom and then leaving within one minute. A wallet was taken from the classroom the suspect was seen entering. The suspect was also caught on video at several stores using the stolen credit cards from the various thefts.

Through computer work and the use of detectives and officers at Northern Division, Detective Gregg Goodman was able to identity the suspect as Jessica Wagner (9/28/1975).

Jessica Wagner was arrested on February 16, 2007 when she was caught shoplifting from the J.C. Penney's store in Mission Valley.

The investigation into these thefts continues. If anyone believes they have been the victim of one of these thefts or has additional information on these cases, please contact Detective Goodman at Northern Division at (858) 552-1718.

###